



D. Hanan
#131C
7.10.02

PATENT
39D-1884 (81841.0019)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

George K. Shibata, *et al.*

Serial No: 09/335,363

Filed: June 17, 1999

For: SAMPLE LOADING AND
HANDLING INTERFACE TO
MULTIPLE CHEMISTRY
ANALYZERS

Art Unit: 1743

Examiner: P. Bex

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AMENDMENT

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 1, 2002, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the text of claim 27 with the following text:

27. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 26, wherein a plurality of sample tube carriages are mounted to the belt, each sample tube carriage adapted for carrying a sample tube.

REMARKS:

Claim 27 is amended; the marked up version of the amended claim is attached hereto pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(ii). No new matter is introduced. Claims 1-34 are pending in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

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